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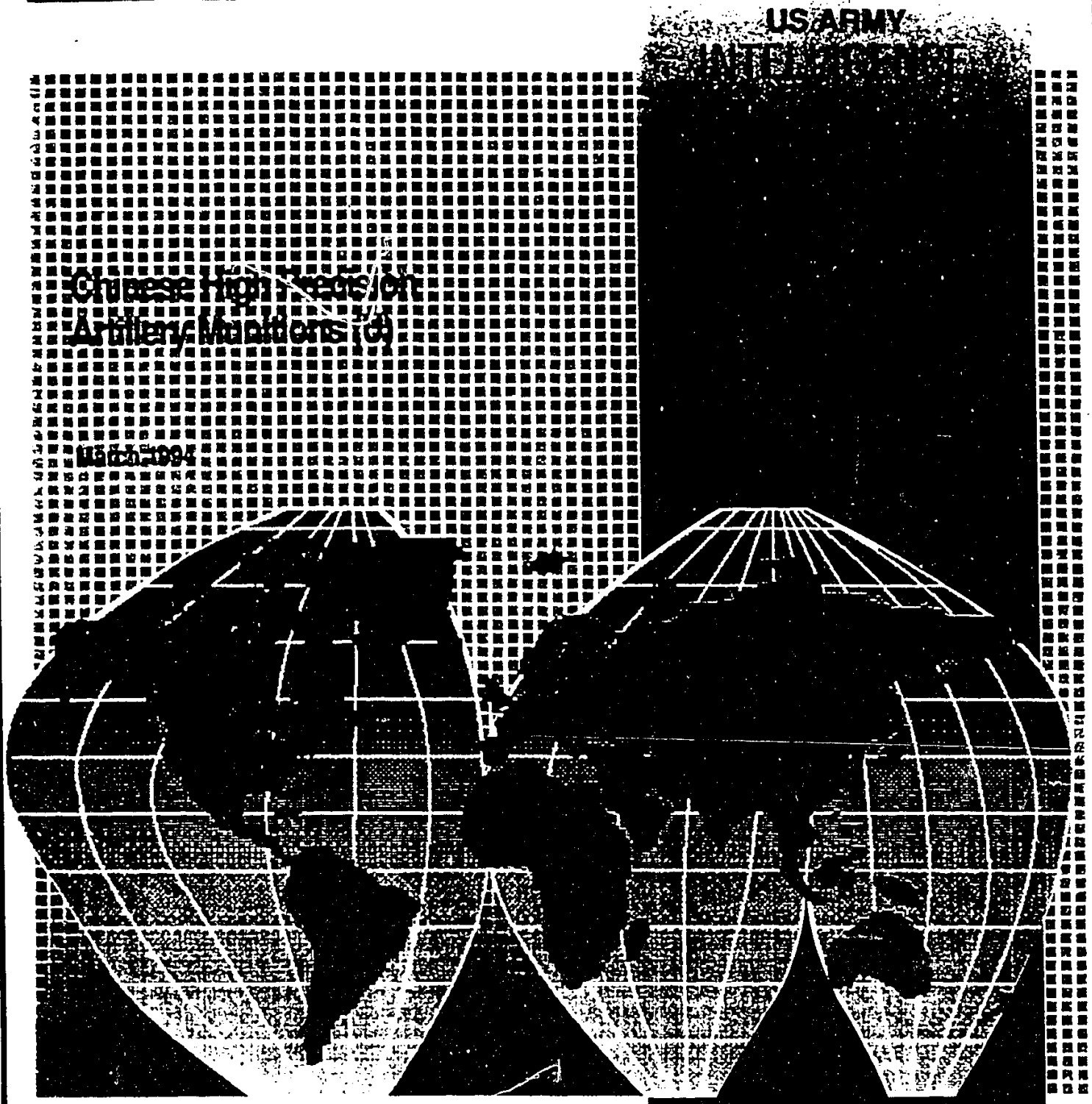

Chinese High Precision Artillery Munitions (U)

March 1994

SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions
United States Army Intelligence and Security Command
United States Army Intelligence and Threat Analysis Center

Intelligence Threat Analysis Brief

ATC-RA-1130-007-94
ICOD: 5 December 1993

SUBJECT: Chinese High Precision Artillery Munitions (U)

(U) KEY JUDGEMENTS

(U) China is modernizing its field artillery capabilities by using Artillery Delivered High Precision Munitions (ADHPM) in addition to conventional munitions.

(U) ADHPM will make the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) artillery 15 to 20 times more lethal on the battlefield.

(U) The PLA will deploy ADHPM at division level and above. ADHPM have a unique importance in future PLA combat and will increasingly dominate fire support modernization and force development over the next 10 to 20 years.

(S/NF)

[redacted]

(U) DISCUSSION

(U) Future Chinese ADHPM will include three types of Chinese ordnance: homing, sensor-fused, and modified trajectory.

(U) Homing ADHPM are either near-infrared(IR) laser-guided or terminally homing.

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5 USC 552 (b)(1)

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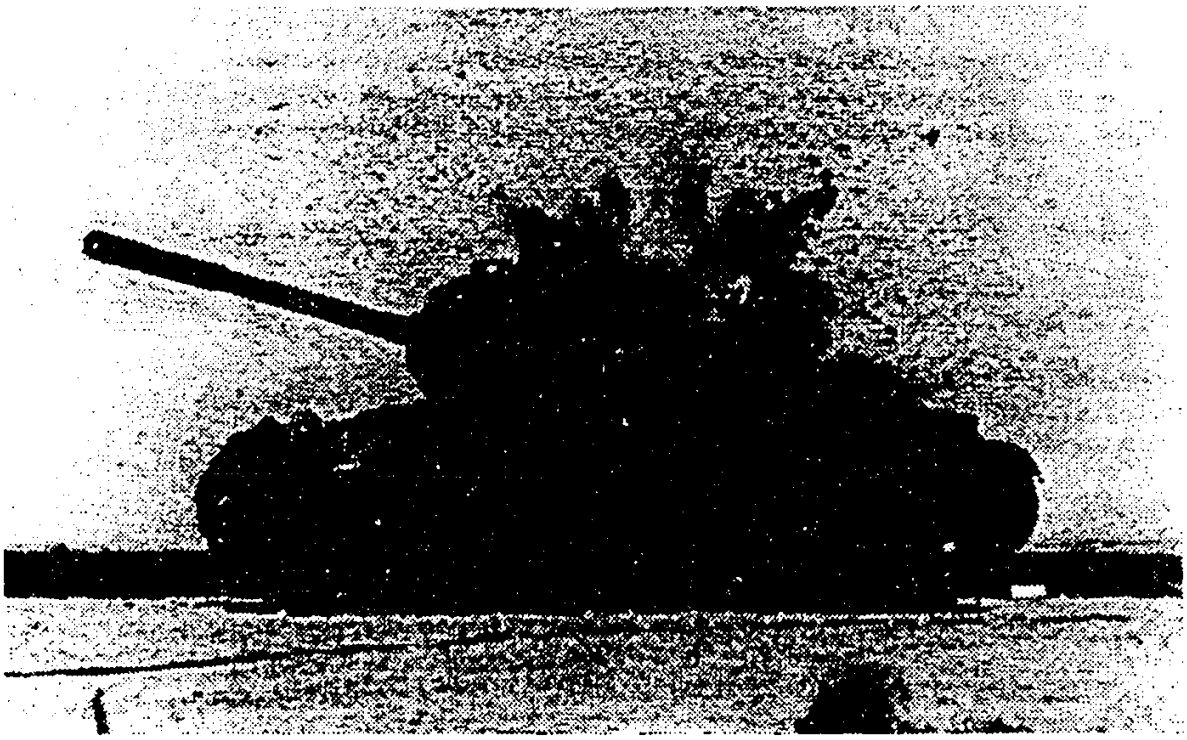

Figure 1. (U) Laser Guided Projectile fired on a M-48

[redacted]

[redacted]

(S/NF)

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(U) FORCE DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

(S/NF)

[redacted]

(U) DEPLOYMENTS and PRODUCTION

(U) ADHPM are currently available in limited numbers and will be used as a combat multiplier in support of the main effort. They will initially be deployed and controlled at the division level or higher. Once the main effort is identified they will be released to the brigade level or below. ADHPM are short range (less than 30 km) and are designed to engage armored vehicles in tactical formations. These factors will mean that they will be employed (targeting, fire control, post strike assessment) by artillery commanders or fire support coordinators operating at maneuver battalion or regiment/brigade level. Decentralized employment requires the commander's guidance and targeting guidelines established in advance.

(U) Allocation of Chinese ADHPM will probably be made to sectors with the highest probability of hostilities--India or Vietnam. Targeting will be limited to key installations within laser target designator (LTD) line of sight and critical terrain features that will foster employment. These include Command Posts, bridges, fire

support coordination centers, chokepoints, and bunkers. ADHPM will be employed in conjunction with hidden or scatterable minefields, so that target arrays can be engaged at a halt or forced to move through the minefield by the destructiveness of ADHPM fires. Other types of field artillery will be constrained in the sectors where laser or IR homing munitions are employed. This will reduce the chance of explosion-generated dust and smoke interfering with the optical paths or the laser or IR energy.

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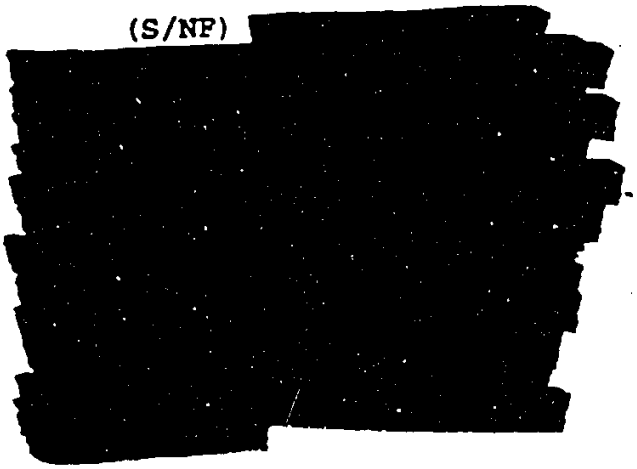

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(U) LIMITATIONS

(U) Homing and sensor-fused ADHPM have a limited capability because they are target-type munitions and are impaired by smoke, fog, and dust. Additionally, homing ADHPM require a LTD. The PLA's goal is to eliminate the LTD and transition to a fire and forget capability. The Modified Trajectory ADHPM are the exception to the target type munitions, specifically because their sensors target a location or grid coordinate, are less costly, and will work in smoke, fog and dust. ADHPM are also limited by their high cost of production. ADHPM cost from 20 to 50 percent (for Modified trajectory) to 100 times (for terminally homing) more than conventional projectiles. However, the reduced logistical requirement and the smaller quantity needed to accomplish a mission promote some cost reduction.

(U) CONCLUSION

(U) The PLA artillery units are modernizing their forces by deploying ADHPM in addition to conventional munitions to become more technologically sophisticated. ADHPM greatly reduce the logistical burden while operating many times more effectively than conventional munitions. Therefore, Chinese ADHPM will be the preferred weapon of choice in many cases for the PLA because of their precision and lethality in a conventional battlefield environment. ADHPM capabilities offer an economic advantage by providing for foreign sales opportunities, and will keep the Chinese artillery competitive on the battlefield into the 21st century.

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(U) Comments on the content and use of this publication should be addressed to Commander, US Army and Threat Analysis Center, ATTN: IAITAC-00 (Susan Young), Building 213, Washington Navy Yard, Washington DC 20374-5085. Requests for copies of this document or for changes in distribution requirements should be coordinated as directed in AR 381-19, Intelligence Dissemination and Production Support, February 1988.

(U) Army Requirements addressed in this product include DAMI-FIT requirement 92-182 and TRADOC Threat Assessments TRADOC 91-02. This product supports the Global Security Forcast (GSF) and the Land Threat Enviornment Projection (LTEP).

Enclosure

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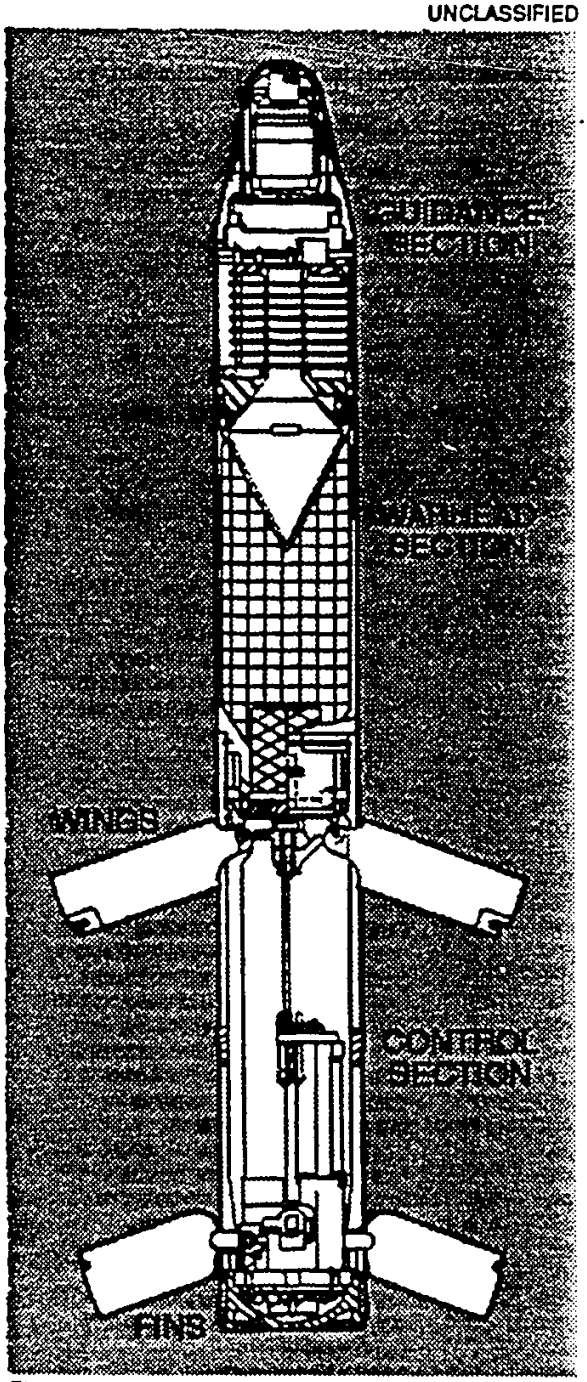

Figure 2. (U) SAL-P Schematic

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